

OPERATING SESSION REAUTHORIZATION IN A USER-OPERATED DEVICE

Abstract Of The Disclosure

An authorization-update process for use in a user-operated device re-authorizes an operating session after a rapid idle timeout using the authorization-update process, which has fewer steps than a normal authorization process. The re-authorization process can require only a single entry or input event by the user in response to a prompt by the device to re-authorize the user and continue to the operating session. Thus, the authorization-update process is significantly faster than re-authorization in the conventional manner. In one embodiment, the prompt includes a display of several characters. The user selects a predetermined character to re-authenticate the user, thereby continuing the operating session from the same point at which the idle timeout occurred. In a further aspect, the user has a predetermined time period to select the correct character to continue the operation session. Not meeting the time requirement or selecting a wrong character or icon will cause the device to require a full authorization process to enable the user to operate the device. Alternatively, the authorization update process may use the position of the cursor or a voice signal to re-authorize the operating session.

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